

## PRINCIPALS' MONTHLY REPORT – FAIRVIEW HIGH SCHOOL

David Park and Dale Lewis –

With contributing reports from teachers, advisors, coaches, and the community.

MONTH: SEPTEMBER 2009

### OUR MISSION STATEMENT:

Developing the whole student. Achieving excellence in academics, athletics, and the arts.



Art by Jessica Bradshaw

FHS wiki Website: <http://www.fairviewhighschool.wikispaces.com>

*Nine tenths of education is encouragement. ~Anatole France*

### EDLINE – GRADES AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

Parents,

Start the year out right by getting connected to your student's Edline account. Each parent can access student classes, assignments, and grades by creating their own account. You can also combine accounts if you have students in other buildings. This will allow you to have one login and to see all information in one spot.



In order to do this, you will need an activation code. Incoming freshmen were given parent activation codes on Orientation day. Any parent, who has not sent up an account, may call the library for your activation code or with any questions regarding Edline. 474-2600 ext. 3106 or ext. 3104



Remember to be at FHS for the fall Open House – It is this Wednesday (9-23) from 6:00 to 7:30. We will start promptly in the auditorium. Some general information will be distributed there and then you will be released to follow your child's schedule for the 1<sup>st</sup> semester. Get an up close and personal idea of what your child experiences during a typical day. We would like 100%

attendance of parents...this is your opportunity to meet your teachers...and find out the types of things they are doing in class. Refreshments are provided in the library throughout the evening.

### NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

With the retirement of Mrs. Ann Schoeller, Mrs. George and Mrs. Henry from the guidance office have taken over National Honor Society.

All juniors and seniors who have a weighted GPA of 3.75 or higher and are not already NHS members should have received an invitation to a general information meeting to be held on Wednesday, September 23. If you believe your child has a weighted GPA of 3.75 or higher and s/he did not receive an invitation, please contact the guidance office at 474-2600 ext 3110.

### RACHEL'S CHALLENGE PRESENTATION

Mark your calendars now for this extremely valuable and important event! The district is proud to present a community evening assembly called

#### **Rachel's Challenge**

at **7:00 p.m.** on **Thursday, October 1** -. Rachel Scott was the first person killed in the Columbine massacre-the worst high school shooting in U.S. history. Rachel's brother, Craig, a survivor and witness to the shootings will lead this life altering presentation. Craig was in the school library where ten classmates were killed and over twenty wounded. After witnessing two of his



friends murdered next to him, Craig led a group of students out of the school. Later that day, he would discover that his sister, Rachel, was also dead.

The one hour presentation combines video and audio footage of Rachel's life and the Columbine tragedy that motivates viewers to truly consider the way they treat others.

Several administrators, educators and parents have already seen this presentation and can attest to it's impact. You will want to discuss this program with your children who will be seeing different versions of the program at the high school and the middle school. This is an evening that will stay with you for a long time - again, schedule it into your plans. The presentation is open to the public. Invite your friends and relatives. We promise you will not regret coming to this life changing event.

**On Thursday, October 1 at 7:00 p.m. Craig Scott will present the Rachel's Challenge assembly program to all students and staff on campus in the FHS auditorium. YOU WILL NOT WANT TO MISS THIS EVENT !!!**

Rachel's Challenge is a non-violence school program which incorporates various aspects of character development and anti-bullying themes with powerful audio/video footage. This one-hour presentation holds students spell-bound and then motivates students to seek positive change in the way they treat others. (Each assembly is modified and is age appropriate for each building). At the middle school and high school level, the assembly will be followed by a 45 minute peer mentoring training session involving selected faculty and students. To sustain the positive climate change in our school, a year long curriculum called the Friends of Rachel (FOR) program continues training students throughout the year and plugs them into activities that continue the *chain reaction of kindness*.

**TIGER PRIDE WEAR**

Cheerleading: Selling T-shirts for \$5.00

School Store: Sale on Hoodies BOGO \$25 and T-shirts \$8.00

Show your tiger spirit with clothes bearing your school name!!!

**H1N1 (Swine Flu) Update Message from Superintendent Erik Kincade**

The Fairview School District would like to update you with the latest information being released from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the Pennsylvania Department of Health (PADOH) regarding Influenza-like illness (ILI) and the novel influenza A virus A/H1N1.

Symptoms of H1N1

The H1N1 virus causes a respiratory illness with symptoms that are similar to that of the seasonal flu, and therefore it is difficult to tell them apart. Symptoms that suggest possible H1N1 infection include fever higher than 100 °F and either a cough or sore throat. Illness may be accompanied by other symptoms including headache, tiredness, runny or stuffy nose, body aches, diarrhea, and vomiting. Like seasonal flu, illness from H1N1 can vary from mild to severe.



How it is Spread

The main way that colds and flu are spread is from person to person in respiratory droplets when an infected person coughs or sneezes. This is called "droplet spread." This can happen when droplets from a cough or sneeze of an infected person move through the air and are deposited on the mouth or nose of people nearby. Sometimes germs can be spread when a person touches respiratory droplets from another person on a surface like a desk and then touches his or her own eyes, mouth or nose before washing their hands.



When to Stay Home

Students and staff members who are sick should not come to school. People who have symptoms of an influenza-like illness (ILI) (fever plus at least cough or sore throat and possibly other symptoms like runny nose, body aches, headaches, chills, fatigue, vomiting and diarrhea) should stay home and keep away from

others as much as possible, including avoiding travel, for at least 24 hours after fever is gone except to get medical care or for other necessities. (Fever should be gone without the use of fever-reducing medicine). This recommendation should be adhered to whether or not the sick individual received treatment with antiviral drugs. Since the usual duration of fever is 2-4 days, this will allow most individuals to return to school after a period of 3-5 days of exclusion.

### The School Plan

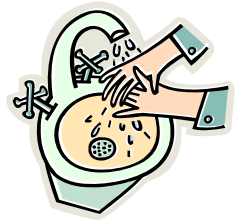
Any student or staff member with influenza like symptoms will be referred to the school nurse for evaluation. They will be promptly separated from other students and staff and will be sent home as soon as possible. The student will also be evaluated by the school nurse when they return to school to make sure they are no longer ill with fever and are well enough to attend class.

In compliance with the CDC guidelines, the school will regularly clean all areas and items that are more likely to have frequent hand contact. "Additional or special environmental control measures and special cleaners are not necessary."

### Protect Yourself, Protect your Family

Below are everyday actions you and your family can take to stay healthy:

1. Wash your hands often with soap and water, especially after you cough or sneeze. Alcohol-based hands cleaners are also effective if a sink is not available.
2. Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw the tissue in the trash after you use it, and then wash your hands.
3. Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth. Germs spread that way.
4. Avoid close contact (within about 6 feet) with sick people.
5. Try to stay in good general health. Get plenty of sleep, be physically active, manage your stress, drink plenty of fluids, and eat nutritious food.
6. If you do get sick, the CDC recommends that you stay home from work or school and limit contact with others to keep from infecting them.
7. If you have symptoms, seek treatment early.



### **MAINTENANCE**

A big thank you to all who were involved in acquiring and installing our new press box. Here are some pictures of the new structure.



## RECYCLING CLUB

There is a group of enthusiastic students under the direction of Mrs. Daley who will be taking on the task of making FHS a little greener every day. In terms of energy savings – we are running fewer lights at the high school this school year. This effort is in conjunction with an across the board collection of recyclables that goes on each day. We will be enlisting students to help encourage this process.



## STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

This is a distinction that occurs once in the entire high school career for a special group of students who are selected for what they offer the school in terms of academics, athletics, arts, school service, and personality. These students are selected via a monthly nomination and voting process by faculty, support staff, and administrators at FHS. Congratulations to those who have been chosen in the past, and best wishes to all students in the running for the future years.

## KICK OFF MENTOR PROGRAM

The specially selected upperclassmen mentors had their first formal contact with all the freshmen on Thursday, September 10<sup>th</sup> during tutorial. A questionnaire regarding the first week of school was given to all freshmen and the results are being compiled at this time. The session ended with a crossword puzzle with clues being about life at FHS. Winners were given prizes. The goal of this worthwhile program is to provide support to all of our incoming freshmen, helping smooth their transition to our school. Thank you to Mrs. Martter, Mrs. Lisa George, and the mentors for all their hard work on this project.

## WEBSITE

This continues to be the site for all things pertaining to life at the high school.

<http://www.fairviewhighschool.wikispaces.com> Thank you to last year's graduate, Chris Staab, for helping us get this off the ground. This year Emily Vizzini is using her knowledge and creativity to keep the site updated and interesting.

## LIBRARY

**Banned Books Week (BBW):** Celebrating the Freedom to Read is observed during the last week of September each year. Observed since 1982, this annual event reminds Americans not to take this precious democratic freedom for granted. BBW celebrates the freedom to choose works of art and literature and to express one's opinion even if that opinion might be considered unorthodox or unpopular and stresses the importance of ensuring the availability of those viewpoints to all who wish to read them. After all, intellectual freedom can exist only where the freedom to express oneself and the freedom to choose what opinions and viewpoints to consume are both met. Obviously every individual and community makes its own decisions on this subject. These are the books that have been 'banned' in one location or another which are available in our library. Remember that works that are now considered classics, such as those appearing on the list below, have been disparaged and even destroyed by some over the years. Read these works and decide for yourself whether their art, craft, and message deserve to be appreciated.



## Adventures of Huckleberry Finn (1885)

by Mark Twain

A negative term referring to African Americans which appears many times in the novel, was the cause for the removal of this classic from an eighth-grade reading list. In the 1950s, the NAACP objected to the book's perceived racist tone. In 1984, the book was removed from a public high school reading list in Waukegan, Illinois, because a black alderman found the book's language offensive.



## **As I Lay Dying (1932)**

by William Faulkner

In 1986, Graves County, Kentucky, the school board banned this book about a poor white family in the midst of crisis, from its high school English reading list because of 7 passages which made reference to God or abortion and used common curse words. None of the board members had actually read the book.

## **Catcher in the Rye (1951)**

by J. D. Salinger

This is a perennial favorite of censors and has been banned in the U.S. and Australia. In 1960, a Tulsa, OK teacher was fired for putting the book on the 11th grade reading list. The teacher was reinstated, but the book was permanently removed from teaching programs. A Minnesota high school administration was attacked for allowing the book in the school library.

## **Fahrenheit 451**

by Ray Bradbury

This book is about censorship and those who ban books for fear of creating too much individualism and independent thought. In late 1998, this book was removed from the required reading list of the West Marion High School in Foxworth, Mississippi. A parent complained of the use of the word “damn” in the book. Subsequently, the superintendent instructed the teacher to remove the book from the required reading list.

## **Grapes of Wrath (1939)**

by John Steinbeck

Several months after the book's publication, a St. Louis, MO library ordered 3 copies to be burned for the vulgar words used by its characters. It was also banned in Kansas City and in Oklahoma.

## **Lord of the Flies**

by William Golding

The Toronto School Board banned this classic from all its schools, claiming it was racist for use of a racial epithet. Even Golding's Nobel Prize in literature did not protect this author's book.

***Parents can only give good advice or put them on the right paths, but the final forming of a person's character lies in their own hands. ~Anne Frank***



## **WELLNESS**

Ninth graders are starting the study of puberty, and are playing tennis and soccer.

Tenth graders are starting their wellness theme blogs, and beginning "The Last Lecture" video.

Eleventh graders have had tournaments in volleyball and 'bloopers' ball.

Competitive Teams Sports have had tournaments in volleyball and bloopers ball. Weightlifting is going well.

Muscles are getting toned and stronger every day.

## SPECIAL EDUCATION

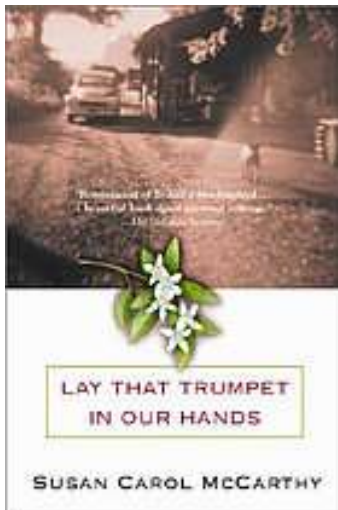
The Erie County Transition Program has opened for its first semester. Fairview is one of the nine sponsoring districts of this program. This program is a set of hands on activities and experiences for secondary students with disabilities. It is to help these students achieve specific outcomes that will help promote movement from school to post-school activities. The students will learn many skills such as how to clean a hotel room, how to work in a restaurant, work ethic, and communication skills. Fairview was able to send five students to the Transition Program.

## WORLD LANGUAGE

### CLUBS

The Spanish and French clubs will be participating in their combined fundraiser in September.

## COMMUNICATIONS



Fairview High School students in Mrs. Hurt's classes began the school year with a fantastic guest! [Susan McCarthy](#), celebrated author of [Lay That Trumpet in Our Hands](#), visited with Fairview High School students and teachers on September 1 and 2, 2009. Mrs. Hurt's Honors Communication 9 students read Susan McCarthy's novel as a summer reading requirement and discussed the novel in-depth during class. Mrs. Hurt contacted Susan McCarthy last spring, made arrangements for her to come to FHS, and welcomed her into our school the second day of classes this year.

Those students and staff who attended McCarthy's presentation in our auditorium much about the links between the events of and Ms. McCarthy's own family's experiences during the 1950s in central Ms. McCarthy's family, transplanted northerners, owned a citrus farm and

commercial fruit stand during a time of great racial unrest in Florida. and employees of her family faced racial injustices brought upon them by Ku Klux Klan, corrupt police officials, and community members who either encouraged prejudice or did nothing to discourage racial violence.



Susan learned the novel

Florida.

Friends the local

Several years before Susan McCarthy's father's seventy-fifth birthday, he mailed her a large envelope that included numerous clippings from the family's local newspaper. After forty years of silence, legal documents from a trial had been unsealed and made public. McCarthy's father told her, "Here's a story for you to write." *Lay That Trumpet in Our Hands* was a gift to her father, a courageous man who risked his family, his business, and his life to gather evidence for the FBI that would implicate members of the local KKK and others in their community in the death of a local boy and in other illegal actions that repressed black citizens of central Florida. Writing the novel took McCarthy more than two years to complete, and although her father passed away before he could read the book, he knew she had written his story.

FHS students not only heard the truth about the events in the novel, learned about the process McCarthy worked through as she researched the facts of the events and the trial; as she wrote, and re-wrote the novel; and as she "failed" in finding a voice for her until she created Reesa McMahon, the young girl who ultimately tells father's story. Our students learned so much more about the novel, writing, about history, and about life by talking with Susan McCarthy. novel to learn more!



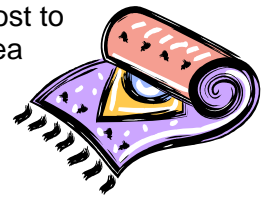
they also

revised, narrator McCarthy's about Read the

Thank you, Mrs. Hurt, for arranging opportunities this wonderful opportunity!

## MATH

Mr. Amendola's Applied Algebra classes will be doing a Lab in early October involving the cost to carpet teacher's classrooms. Students will measure various rooms at FHS, calculate the area in both square feet and square yards and calculate the cost to carpet the rooms. Cost will include various prices for carpet, installation fees and sales tax. Students will also be asked to calculate the savings using various types of carpet depending on the quality of the carpet.



## SCIENCE

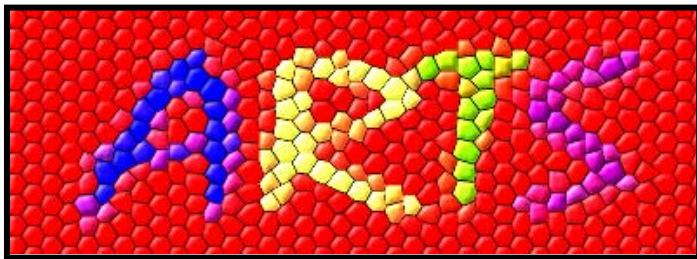
### Earth Force Brief

On September 8, Sister Pat Lupo and Margarita Dangel from Earth Force came to do a kickoff program with the ninth grade, Honors Environmental Science students. Earth Force is a six-step program with its goal being to engage "young people as active citizens who improve the environment and their communities now and in the future." The ladies presented a program that asked students to identify both assets and issues within a community. Students were then asked to create categories and look at who were the stakeholders for different issues. The kickoff was a great way to engage students and to help them identify environmental issues. The students will be taking the next step by beginning to formulate projects of their own. We look forward to their ideas!

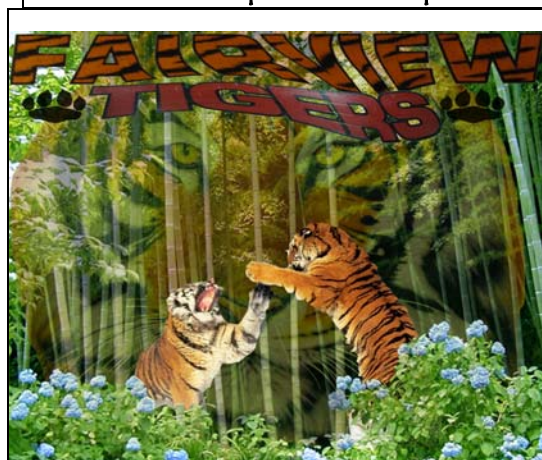




## KEY CLUB ACTIVITIES

The Key Club had a great turn out at its first meeting. Many students joined to participate in community service efforts around the community. The Key Club and PATS sponsored the Back to School Dance which was held on September 11. The Key Club would like to thank everyone who was involved to make it a successful effort. There are many projects that are underway for the school year such as donations for the soup kitchen, Zoo Boo, helping at the concession stand, open house tour guides, and helping with the homecoming fair. The Key Club is participating in the JDRF Walk to Cure Diabetes and the Stride and Ride for Muscular Dystrophy that are coming up in the beginning of October.



Some student photo composition work:

		
<p><i>J. Mark Graham</i></p>	<p><i>Derick Fiedler</i></p>	<p><i>Amanda Lawson</i></p>

## STUDENT COUNCIL

***This year's student council officers are:***

Phil Sundin – President

Rachel Tallmadge - Vice President

Nathan Brinling – Treasurer

TJ Masters – Secretary

Hannah Susko – Recorder

### SENIOR CLASS OFFICERS

President - Jessica Kocan

Vice President - Phil Sundin

Treasurer - Thomas Shuttleworth

Secretary - Kristin Miller

### JUNIOR CLASS OFFICERS

President – Austin O'Keane

Vice President – Maggie Glass

Secretary – Erica Robertson

Treasurer – Georgia Konzel

### SOPHOMORE CLASS OFFICERS

President Alex Borowski

Vice President Jeremy Brinling

Secretary Molly McWilliams

Treasurer RJ Petrella

### FRESHMAN CLASS OFFICERS

President Andrew Levin

Vice President Lizzie Hauk

Secretary Jessica Brinling

Treasurer Jessica Robertson



# We Need Our Parents

## MUSIC BOOSTERS     \$ \$ \$

The Fairview Music Boosters will be conducting two fundraisers in the month of October: Jane's Stromboli/pies and the Marching Band cookbook titled, . The Jane's sale will include not only their high-quality strombolis, but also their delicious pies. This would be a good opportunity to get your pies and pumpkin rolls for Thanksgiving; they come frozen, so you can store them in your freezer until you are ready to gobble them down! Our cookbook contains 350 tried and true recipes from the kitchens of school staff members, community members, friends, and family. The books are \$10 each, and will be ready for delivery in mid-December. This is a great chance to buy those special people in your life a unique and practical gift for the holidays - a little piece of your home town! The Music Boosters will have a table set up at open house where we will be taking orders for the cookbook, as well as accepting membership into our booster organization. Please stop by to see us!



## PATS

The PATS organization – Parents/Administrators/Teachers/Students – have a single fundraiser each year. That is going on right now. It is the Yankee Candle Sale. This is to help this marvelous group pay for all of the events they support during the school year such as Prom to Dawn, teacher appreciation lunch, student college scholarships, summer school needs based scholarships, secretaries luncheon, the 9<sup>th</sup> grade mentoring program...You get the idea...the school wouldn't function without them.... So please don't forget to get your order in for your candles – They have a wide selection of aromas and they make a perfect holiday gift. The deadline is the night of Open House – September 23<sup>rd</sup>.



# ATHLETICS

The boys' soccer team is off to a 3-0 start. The Tigers defeated North East and Class AAAA Altoona to start the season. The defending District 10 champions added a 6-5 overtime win over Seneca on September 16<sup>th</sup>.

The girls' soccer team, under first-year head coach Lyndsay Violi, earned its first win of the year with a 3-0 decision over Iroquois on September 15<sup>th</sup>. The Lady Tigers are 1-2.

Following an opening day loss at Bradford, the football team registered a 35-0 win over Northwestern to even its record to 1-1. The Tigers play an ambitious schedule traveling the next four games before returning home October 16<sup>th</sup>.

The boys' and girls' cross country teams are also off to an impressive start. After a strong showing in the McDowell Invitational to open the season, the boys finished with second place honors at the State College Spiked Shoe Invitational. The girls earned third place honors. The State College Meet features some of the top teams from around the state.

The girls' volleyball team opened the season with a 2-1 record. The girls are looking to improve on last year's 10-8 mark. The Lady Tigers have an experienced squad, graduating only one player from a year ago.

The boys' golf team captured a major victory over General McLane on September 16<sup>th</sup>. The Tigers trail General McLane in the Region 5 standings by just three points.

The girls' tennis team suffered its only loss of the season to McDowell (4-1). The girls are 3-1 and trailing only Mercyhurst Prep in the region standings.

The girl's water polo club team picked up its first win of the season with a 15-9 over Mechanicsburg in the Screaming Eagles Tournament in Mechanicsburg. The girls have also participated in the McDowell Cup. The Lady Tigers face McDowell and Villa at home, September 24<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>.

## ATTENDANCE

Total number of absences from 8-31-09 to 9-15-09 - 136

Average number of absences per day

- 12.3 per day

Average percentage

- 1.1%

Total number of tardies from 8-31-09 to 9-15-09

- 109 tardies

Average number of tardies per day

- 9.9 per day

Average percentage

- 0.9%



## TRUANCY TASK FORCE

Three members of the faculty and staff at FHS are participants in the countywide Truancy Task Force headed by Judge Stephanie Domitrovich. The first meeting of the school year was September 14<sup>th</sup> at the Erie County Court House.

## DISCIPLINE

Our main problem has been violations of the dress code. The main problem is in the area of too short skirts or shorts or low-cut blouses. We are providing the text from the student handbook for clarification on the subject. Please monitor your child's dress so that we may avoid a disruption to their school day.

Students must at all times be dressed in a manner that is conducive to a businesslike, scholastic atmosphere. Dress or grooming which is overly distracting to others and therefore disruptive to the educational process is prohibited.

### ALLOWED:

The wearing of:

- Shoes or appropriate sandals
- Pants and skirts
  - ❖ worn at appropriate waistline – underwear and skin must be covered
  - ❖ skirts and shorts must be at least finger tip length – with arms hanging straight down while standing straight

### PROHIBITED:

Going barefoot except in the pool area.

The wearing of:

#### **Clothing:**

- Halter-tops / Mesh shirts / See-through clothing
- Sleeveless shirts or blouses including any type of straps, tank tops, tube tops. Cap sleeves are permitted.
- Any clothing which shows bare shoulders, midriff, and/or cleavage
- Pants with holes that are above the knee.
- Vulgar, profane messages, or those which advertise:
  - ❖ Alcohol (including advertisements for bars) / Sex / Tobacco Violence Weapons / Drugs

#### **Accessories:**

- Anything worn on the head, including caps, hats, headbands, hoods, scarves and handkerchiefs
- Chains larger than a thin neck chain (no more than 1/8" thick) or spiked jewelry

### CONSEQUENCES:

- Violators will be sent to the office and will be required to obtain appropriate clothing before returning to class.
- Students who do not comply with request to use appropriate dress, or who habitually violate the code shall receive disciplinary consequences.

*In shops, labs, and food areas, health and safety regulations will determine any specialized dress code.*

All clothing decisions are at the discretion of the administration.

## MONTHLY REFOCUS ROOM UPDATE

\*as of 9-16-08

As the new 2009/2010 school year begins we are happy to welcome our new teacher, Drew Maetz to the Refocus Room. The first few days of school seemed to get off to a pleasant start as several of our students, who struggled throughout the previous year either academically, emotionally or both, stopped in to greet Mr. Maetz and to report how their summers went. They all seemed to have a very positive outlook on this new school year. These same students continue to drop by our room just to "check in" and to talk about things that may be bothering them.

The Refocus Room has been busy from the very start as several students have been assigned to take online courses via the EdOptions Online Curriculum program started last spring. One student currently spends almost a full day working while others are assigned for one class period. Our After School Academic Success Program (ASASP) is also up and running and will most likely see an increase in attendance as the semester gets under way. The following is a listing of the total number of students who have visited the Refocus Room so far this year, and the reason they were here.

Gross Disrespect	Bullying/Harassment	Unsafe Behavior	Emotional Support	Academic Support	ASASP
5	1	1	14	39	4

***All who have meditated on the art of governing mankind have been convinced that the fate of empires depends on the education of youth. ~ Aristotle***